

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **HB 301 - SB 193**

January 13, 2004

#### **SUMMARY OF BILL:**

- Requires the Office of Legislative Information Systems to develop a computer program enabling roll-call votes taken on a bill or resolution by a subcommittee or committee of the general assembly or a roll-call vote of the Senate and the House of Representative to be posted in a timely fashion on the Internet through the website maintained by the general assembly. The posting of such votes shall be implemented beginning with the second session of the 103rd General Assembly and posted within 24 hours of the vote taken on the bill or resolution. The bill also requires all votes constituting final action on a bill or resolution by a subcommittee or ad hoc, special, or standing committee to be by roll-call vote.
- Includes specifically the general assembly and committees, subcommittees, and ad hoc committees of the general assembly under the Open Meetings Act.
- Requires the Registry of Election Finance to make available on the Internet all contribution and expenditure information included in the statements filed by candidates for state public office or political campaign committee in a state election.

#### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

##### **Increase State Expenditures - Less than \$50,000 Recurring**

Estimate assumes:

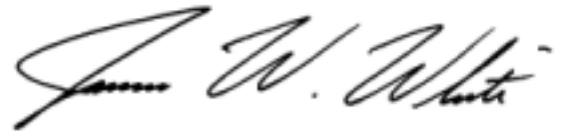
- any additional computer processing changes can be accomplished within existing budgeted resources.
- recurring expenditures reflect a need for any part-time positions and associated expenses to enter roll-call votes into the legislative information system using a laptop computer. At least one staff person would be assigned to enter tabulated voting data to a system interface to be designed by LIS and would need to comply with the bill's requirement that such data be entered within 24 hours.

For informational purposes, an alternative method to record all roll-call votes and transmit such data to the website would be to install equipment and software capable of recording and transmitting each member's vote, in each committee room, directly to the legislative information system and to the website as well as modernize the chamber voting system. The cost to install such systems and modernize existing systems would require a significant one-time investment of state dollars.

**Note:** T.C.A. 2-10-211(5) provides that beginning with the 2004 regular August election, the Registry of Election Finance will begin to provide public access to a list of campaign contributions made to candidates and a list of expenditures made by those candidates by posting such list on the Internet. This legislation was passed in 2003 and became Public Chapter 414.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director